

Santa Fe Police Department Accreditation

➤ *Santa Fe Police Department is in the process of applying for Accreditation with the New Mexico Law Enforcement Professional Standards Council.*

What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a process in which certification of competency, authority or credibility is presented. For Law enforcement agencies it is a way of helping the agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance.

What is the Purpose of Accreditation?

The Purpose of Accreditation is to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and professionalism, while promoting/improving training and public confidence in the Santa Fe Police Department.

What is the Process of Accreditation?

Accreditation is the ongoing process whereby agencies evaluate their policies, procedures, training and activities against established criteria and have compliance with that criteria verified by an independent and authoritative body. The criteria, or standards, are policy development guidelines that represent a level of quality service delivery.

The essential steps in the accreditation process are:

- ✓ Application
- ✓ Self Assessment
- ✓ On site Assessment
- ✓ New Mexico Law Enforcement Professional Standards Council Review
- ✓ Awarding of accreditation status
- ✓ Maintenance of Compliance
- ✓ Recertification

What areas do the Standards cover?

- Law enforcement role, responsibilities, and relationships with other agencies.
- Organization, management, and administration.
- The personnel structure and process.
- Traffic operations.
- Communications.
- Property/evidence control.

Why is Accreditation important to the Department and Employees?

- Assures city leaders of the quality of service delivered by law enforcement.
- Strengthens the Department's defense against lawsuits and complaints.
- Provides an ongoing, independent evaluation of the Department.

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- Promotes a strong emphasis on officer safety.
- Provides each member of the Department with a sense of pride, satisfaction and confidence, knowing their agency has met and maintained such high, professional standards.



Why is Accreditation important to the Community?

- Increases citizen awareness and confidence in the goals, objectives, policies and procedures of the Department due to the ongoing, comprehensive, independent evaluation conducted by the New Mexico Law Enforcement Professional Standards Council.
- Increases the Department's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services.